

**MINUTES OF THE ZION LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION HELD ON MONDAY,  
JULY 30, 2015 AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, ZION,  
ILLINOIS**

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Chairman Hill called the meeting to order.

On call of the roll the following answered present: Commissioners, McNabb, Winfrey, Thorn and Chairman Hill.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Commissioner Thorn, seconded by Commissioner McNabb to approve the minutes with corrections of the Zion Liquor Control Commission held on June 25, 2015 at 5:02 p.m. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McNabb, aye; Winfrey, aye; Thorn, aye and Chairman Hill, aye. Motion carried.

**CITIZEN'S COMMENTS**

Tim Axarides, representing Tracy's Bistro, stated he wanted to show support for video gaming in Zion. He stated he has several locations and feels they do a great job.

Shone Davis, Zion IL, stated he would like to voice his opinion on the amount of licenses the Commission intends to issue. He stated he would like to be sure Zion doesn't get flooded with a large number of licenses that will overwhelm the community.

**CLASSIFICATION OF LICENSES/CREATION OF CLASS "K" LICENSE**

Chairman Hill stated the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the parameters of a new license classification. He has been approached by business owners for the City Council to consider creating a new liquor license class that encompasses both video gaming and liquor. He stated a liquor license is required in order for an establishment to have video gaming. Chairman Hill proposed the new liquor classification include the following:

- Maximum of five (5) "K" licenses will be awarded
- Each facility must include a minimum of 25 seats, excluding game machine seats
- Food must be prepared on premises
- Food and beverage must be 25% of net revenue. Net revenue is defined as net terminal income minus gaming pay outs, state share, municipal share and gaming machine owner share
- Only beer and wine may be sold on premises only
- All alcoholic beverages must be consumed on premises
- Maximum of three (3) alcoholic beverages may be served per person, per day
- Must have five (5) operating gaming terminals
- Hours of operation will be limited to 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight
- Annual license fee will be \$3,000 along with the initial non-refundable application fee of \$500

Commissioner Thorn asked if there were any other requests other than that of Mr. Shone Davis. Chairman Hill stated the Clerk's office has been keeping a list of interested parties. He stated to date, there have been nine requests.

Chairman Hill asked if there were any other comments or suggestions from the Liquor Commission. He then proceeded to ask the members of the public.

A representative from Lucky Jack's gaming café asked if the Commission would consider reducing the amount of seating from 25 to either 15 or 20. She stated only one unisex bathroom would be required with seating of 15 or less. Chairman Hill stated he did not know offhand what the bathroom requirements were per the Municipal Code. He stated his proposal is not meant to be like a bar or just video gaming. He wants to create places in town where people can go for lunch, do some gaming and get a drink. He stated he would like to see places that would provide the best of everything and draw people to these places for other things besides gaming.

Mr. Axarides stated food and beverage net revenue of 25% would be tough to meet. He stated the gaming revenue will usually always overcome the food sales. He stated he has a full service restaurant with gaming in Carol Stream which does very well and gaming still takes the most percentage.

Chairman Hill asked the Commission if they had any thoughts on the matter. He stated he will check the Municipal Code to properly address the seating.

Commissioner McNabb asked if they could approve the new license classification now, and address the revenue percentage issue later.

Chairman Hill stated he would like to approve a "K" license classification at this meeting and will look at the code regarding the seating. He stated he is concerned about the percentage for food and beverages. He stated he wants the cafes to offer more than just gaming.

Mr. Axarides stated his cafe will have quality food available such as sandwiches and salads.

Chairman Hill asked members of the audience what they felt would be a reasonable percentage. One audience member suggested between 10 and 15%. Commissioner Thorn stated she would not agree to 10%. Mayor Hill asked the Commission if 15% will be acceptable. Commissioner Winfrey asked Chairman Hill if he and Mr. Davis ever discussed the percentage of food. Chairman Hill stated they had not. Commissioner Winfrey stated she would like to see the percentage of food be at least 15%. Chairman Hill stated he does not want café owners to go to 7-11 and purchase packaged food and bring it back to the cafe to sell to customers. He stated he would like to see a complete lunch or dinner available. He stated he feels no one goes to any of the Tracey's gaming cafes for a sandwich, they go for the gaming. He stated his vision would be for cafes to put more emphasis on food. He stated the Commission will agree to 15% of net revenue for food and beverages. He stated the recommendation for the new classification will go to the City Council on August 4<sup>th</sup>. The zoning for video gaming cafes will be addressed at a special zoning meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup>. The Zoning Board recommendation will then go to City Council for approval at the August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. He stated once final approval comes from the City Council, applications will be accepted. He stated there will be a small window that applications will be accepted. A special liquor meeting will be scheduled to review the applications and award the licenses. He stated no applications will be accepted until after the August 18<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. He stated the seating adjustment (of less than 25 seats) will be decided upon review of the Municipal Code.

7/30/15

It was moved by Commissioner McNabb, seconded by Commissioner Winfrey to recommend the City Council amend the Liquor Control Ordinance, Section 56-56, creating a Class K license for a video café as discussed. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners McNabb, aye; Winfrey, aye; Thorn, aye; and Chairman Hill, aye. Motion carried.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner Winfrey, seconded by Commissioner Thorn and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 5:25 p.m. Motion carried.

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Recording Secretary